

animals, and I believe has never been bred in captivity. I am informing you of this as I am sure the Society will be interested.

LAXMI VILAS PALACE,  
BARODA,  
October 5, 1964.

F. GAEKWAD,  
*Maharaja of Baroda*

[Harper in EXTINCT AND VANISHING MAMMALS OF THE OLD WORLD states that, between 1842 and 1849, 9 Wild Ass foals were born in the Paris Zoo. There is no record of the species breeding in captivity in India.—EDS.]

#### 4. THE HISPID HARE [*CAPROLAGUS HISPIDUS* (PEARSON)]

In continuation of the Editorial Note (*Journal* 57:400-402) on the rarity of the Hispid Hare, Shebbeare (*Journal* 58 : 266-267) reported that it was not uncommon in parts of the Goalpara Forest Division in 1907-1911. During March-April, 1955 and 1957, the writer collected for about seven weeks around Raimona and Jamduar in the north-eastern parts of Goalpara District, Assam, bordering West Bengal and Bhutan. The species is certainly rare in this area at present because, despite the best efforts of four trained collectors to make a thorough survey of the mammalian fauna of the area, I could see only two specimens, one in the field (not collected) and a young one with a local person who had obtained it around Raimona. The young one was purchased by the leader of the German-Indian Expedition with whom the writer was then working and is now in the collection of the Hamburg Museum. The one seen in the field was seen at dusk near a shallow pool of water just on the left bank of Sankosh River about 3 km. south of Jamduar Forest Rest House. On noticing the presence of the writer at a distance of hardly 15 metres it ran away, then stopped and tried to hide itself behind stones, but finding itself too big to do so it ran up a high bank and disappeared in the bush. On inspection of the spot where it had disappeared a fresh burrow large enough to accommodate the animal was noticed. It was excavated on the top of the alluvial bank, partly below a bush about ten metres from the pool of water. The bank was well covered with tall grass and some bushes and bordered at some distance by a typical sal forest. The area was far removed from human habitation and showed numerous footprints of large and small carnivores, deer,

and several other wild animals. The spot was again visited at the same hour next day but the animal was not seen.

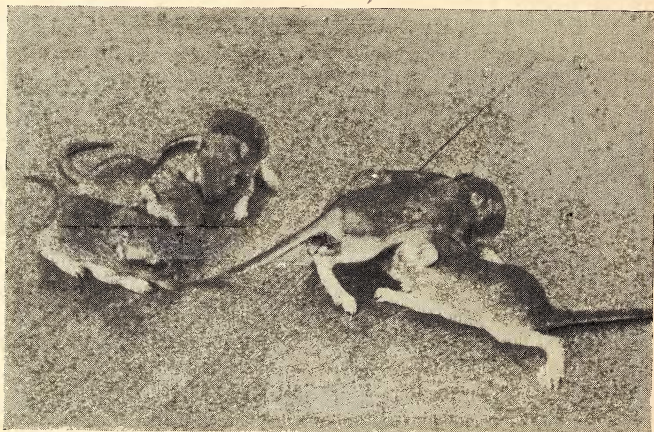
CENTRAL REGIONAL STATION,  
ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,  
JABALPUR,  
July 20, 1964.

H. KHAJURIA

5. YOUNG OF THE INDIAN GERBILLE, *TATERA INDICA*  
*INDICA* HARDWICKE

(With a photograph)

A brood of six young (4 ♀♀ and 2 ♂♂) of the Indian Gerbille *Tatera indica indica* Hardwicke, each weighing 25 gm., was taken on 20-11-63 by the writer from a burrow at village Manot on Mandla-Dindori Road, Madhya Pradesh. The mother escaped. They were still blind but were well covered with hair. The following unrecorded differences from the adults, two of which were also collected from the same locality, have been noted.



Young of the Indian Gerbille, *Tatera indica indica* Hardwicke

Photo : H. Khajuria

Hair growth is imperfect around the urinogenital organs, the inner side of the thigh, the chest, the throat, the inner side of the front legs,